

CLASSIFICATION CONFIDENTIALCOUNTRY Poland REPORT
TOPIC Military Activities in Northern Poland

EVALUATION

DATE OF CONTENT

DATE OBTAINED

DATE PREPARED

REFERENCES

PAGES 2

ENCLOSURES (NO. & TYPE)

REMARKS

This is UNEVALUATED Information

1. Prior to 1954, a Polish recruiting office (WKR) consisting of five low wooden buildings was located at Al Rokossowskiego No 18 in Danzig-Langfuhr (G 55/Y 42). Registrations for the draft were performed there. Another recruiting office had been seen south of ul Gen Swierczewskiego near the junction of road and railroad.¹
2. The 1934 class had been the youngest age class enlisted in Danzig in November 1954. Recruiting operations were carried out in a strict manner. Prior to that date, the Danzig shipyard, a major enterprise, had the possibility of exempting a great number of their specialists from military service. This was being refused in autumn 1954. No persons employed in farming could be exempted from military service. Firms had to direct all applications concerning these questions to the authorized recruiting office. The applications had to state that the person subject to the draft was indispensable at the firm for a period of two years. After examination and consent by the recruiting office, they had to serve in the territorial army.²
3. University students were exempt from active duty. Their military training was performed twice a week under the supervision of instructors stationed at a particular post. This training lasted for the whole period of their studies. During the holidays of the third and fourth year of their studies, the students twice participated in a two-month military training at the troop training grounds. Having passed the last examination at the university, the students were promoted to officer candidates and had one star on their epaulets.³
4. Prior to late 1954, the premilitary training of the Polish youth was performed under the supervision of the "Liga przyjaciol Zo/nierza" (League of the Soldiers' friends) (LPZ). This league included the former independent sections "Liga Lotnicza" (League of Air Activity) and "Liga Morska" (League of Navigation). The LPZ was well organized in the cities of the northern counties of Poland. This was not the case, however, in the country. The membership of the LPZ was voluntary. Germans who applied for membership were also accepted. The Polish youth had great interest in this premilitary training which appealed to them and gave them an opportunity to train for a certain branch of service.
5. All members of the league were trained in firing with rifles of small caliber and in athletics. The instructors had already finished their period of duty. Special training was performed in the sections for aviation, for aquatic sports, for motoring and radio operations. In Danzig, the LPZ also included chemical defense.

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At the section for aviation airplane model construction and gliding was being practiced. The gliding was exercised in different classes with an examination at the end of each class. The section of aquatic sports in Danzig owned a number of sail boats and row boats. The members preferred the section for motoring since there they could get a driving license without having to pay for it. This section owned numerous motorcycles.

1. Comment. The Polish recruiting office at Al Rokossowskiego has been reported previously.
2. Comment. The induction in autumn 1954 of the 1934 class is normal.
3. Comment. The military training of university students during their studies is being performed in a similar fashion also in other Satellite countries.
4. Comment. The "League of the Soldiers' Friends" which is concerned with premilitary training practically corresponds to the Soviet "Society Supporting the Army, Air Force and the Navy" (DOSAAF) which is occupied with similar problems.

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